

August 8, 2007

The regular meeting of the Congregation Council of Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Ardmore, Pennsylvania, was held on Wednesday, August 8, 2007, at 7:50 pm in the Kugler Room. (The regular date was changed due to a hymn festival being held at the church on Thursday, August 9.)

CALL TO ORDER

President William G. Frey called the meeting to order at 7:50 pm, following the worship service.

Present were Senior Pastor Harry W. McDowell, Associate Pastor Julie K. DeWerth, Libby Anderson-Hoyer, Robert J. Ertner, William G. Frey, Christine C. Fritton, William A. Henderson, Jr., Barbara G. Keyser, Bonnie M. Legreid, Elizabeth E. McCoid, Louise M. Pierce, Denette P. Stetler and David L. Wilson, Jr. Absent: Judith A. Zucker.

DEVOTIONS

Pastor McDowell opened the meeting with prayer.

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

Barbara Keyser presented minutes of the regular meeting of the Congregation Council of June 7, 2007, and moved—

That these minutes be approved as presented.

Seconded and, on vote taken, the motion carried.

REPORTS

Senior Pastor: Pastor McDowell submitted a written report, copy attached.

He announced that the schedule for Lenten preachers is just about finalized. The pastors feel that we have lined up some excellent preachers.

A motion was made—

To purchase a postage meter from Pitney Bowes for use in the office.

Seconded and, on vote taken, the motion carried.

The report was accepted.

Associate Pastor: Pastor DeWerth submitted a written report, copy attached.

She is excited about the new play group that is being started for children from infancy to four years of age and their mothers/caregivers. She has also been working on other fall programs at St. Paul's and will be leading the Bishop's convocation planning team for the convocation to be held in November.

The report was accepted.

Evangelism: There was no written report.

Barbara Keyser reported that the pictorial directory has been available since mid-June and that anyone who does not yet have one should take one from the narthex table.

She reported that she had met with Pastor Skip and with Bonnie Legreid and Julia Friedgen of the Worship and Music Committee to form teams of ushers and greeters to serve over a 6-month period.

Mrs. Keyser also announced that mice had gotten into the storage closet where the visitors' mugs were kept and had eaten all the candy, making it necessary to purchase new candy and other supplies to refill about 60 mugs. The mugs will now be stored in large plastic containers, and Tom Ward will keep a "mouse watch" to prevent a recurrence of the previous mess, which she thanked Tom for cleaning up.

Bill Henderson again emphasized that food should never be stored in unopened containers anywhere in the church.

Finally, there will be a new members class and luncheon on Sept. 16, and new members will be received on Sept. 23 at the 10:30 service. The committee will plan for these events at the August meeting.

Social Ministry: There was no written report.

Denette Stetler reported that the three Stephen Ministry leaders had returned from their training session in Pittsburgh and are extremely excited about getting started. They have met with Pastor McDowell and will begin training congregational volunteers in January.

President Bill Frey suggested that a campaign for the funds to support the program should be tied in with the fall stewardship campaign. A PR campaign should be mounted soon.

Parish Activities: There was a meeting held, but no written report.

Libby Anderson-Hoyer announced that her committee is in the process of planning for the Rally Day picnic.

Worship and Music: Bonnie Legreid submitted a written report, copy attached.

Mrs. Legreid described the new usher/greeter teams that are being set up to facilitate the scheduling of volunteers for Sunday worship.

Members of Council discussed the congregation's reaction to the summer schedule (one Sunday service only), which has been positive.

The report was accepted.

Property: Bill Henderson submitted a written report, copy attached.

Mr. Henderson explained a proposal submitted by Nord Bjorke for restoring the stained glass windows and noted that in a couple of months a motion will be brought to Council for approval of the project.

A motion was made—

To sell the freestanding dishwasher in the main basement kitchen to the highest offering firm. Proceeds will be used to offset the cost of a sink sprayer that will be purchased and for various other church projects.

Seconded and, on vote taken, the motion carried.

The report was accepted.

Cemetery: Louise Pierce submitted a written report, copy attached.

Mrs. Pierce explained to Council that a lack of maintenance of the cemetery over the years and a failure to purchase tools and other items needed for proper upkeep have necessitated some large expenditures in the last few months.

The report was accepted.

Christian Education: Liz McCoid submitted a written report, copy attached.

Ms. McCoid noted that the curriculum for the new Sunday School year is now available and that several training sessions for teachers will be held. A number of teachers are still needed; recruiting, as always, is proving to be a challenge.

The report was accepted.

Stewardship: There was no written report.

David Wilson announced that the fall stewardship campaign and the Stephen Ministry campaign are being planned.

Staff Personnel: There was no written report.

Chris Fritton reported that the personnel policy is being worked on and that an updated version will be available at the next meeting.

She also noted that health benefits and a pension have been approved for our new caretaker.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Financial Secretary: Judi Zucker submitted a written report, copy attached.

The report was accepted.

Treasurer: Bob Ertner submitted a written report, copy attached.

The report was accepted.

Finance Committee: Bill Frey submitted a written report, copy attached.

Mr. Frey charged every committee chair with the responsibility of estimating expenses for the balance of the year and asking Council for approval if those expenses are expected to exceed 110% of their budget.

The report was accepted.

OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

There was no outstanding business.

NEW BUSINESS

- Correspondence: Mr. Frey received notification of a synod program on faith and leadership, consisting of six sessions to be held in October and November.
- The calendar was circulated for the addition of meetings and activities.

NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, September 6, 2007, at 7:15 pm in the Kugler Room.

CLOSING PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, it was moved—

That the meeting be adjourned.

Seconded and, on vote taken, the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm following the Lord's Prayer.

BARBARA G. KEYSER, Secretary